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BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR PAINT AND BODY SHOPS

Best management practices can be thought of as using "good housekeeping" practices. Listed below are several procedures to operate your facility and minimize the risk of contamination to the environment.

1. Solvents and other industrial fluids shall not be discharged into sanitary sewers, septic tanks, storm drains, soakage pits, surface waters or onto the ground surface. These fluids must be collected and disposed of properly. Any industrial waste discharged into sanitary sewers must meet sanitary sewer standards.
2. All solvent and paint containers must be empty and completely dry before disposal. Cans must be punctured before disposal to the local sanitary landfill.
3. Paint thinners, solvents, spent solvents and solvent mixtures are hazardous wastes, and must be properly disposed of by a permitted hazardous waste transporter; or the solvents can be recycled by a permitted recycler, or distilled and recycled using a solvent recovery unit at your facility.
 - a. If the waste solvent is recycled by the facility generating the waste, the stillbottoms from the reclaiming operation must be collected and handled as hazardous waste, unless proven otherwise.
 - b. If the waste solvent is recycled by a permitted solvent recycler, receipts must be obtained from the recycler and copies kept at your facility.
4. In all cases when a hazardous waste is produced, a permitted hazardous waste transporter must be used to transport the waste to a federally approved hazardous waste disposal or treatment facility. Hazardous waste manifests must be kept at your facility, available for review. The facility generating the hazardous waste is required to obtain an Environmental Protection Agency identification number unless classified as a conditionally exempt generator by contacting:

Notification Coordinator
Bureau of Waste Planning and Regulation
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
Twin Towers Office Building, Room 471
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-240
(904) 488-4805

- a. The containers must be compatible with the hazardous waste stored in them and must meet DOT standards. Each container is to be marked with the date that the storage began and marked with the words "Hazardous Waste".
5. Rags used during cleaning processes which become contaminated with hazardous materials such as solvents, paints, etc. are considered hazardous wastes and may be handled by an approved rag service or an approved hazardous waste transporter. Used rags must not be disposed of in the trash/dumpster unless a hazardous waste profile indicates otherwise and approval is granted by this department.
6. Receipts of all waste and/or wastewater disposal must be maintained on site, available for inspection. Hazardous waste manifests must be kept for any hazardous waste disposal. Receipts/manifests must be kept for a period of three (3) years.
7. Special attention should be paid to storm drain locations. Storm drains are designed to help alleviate rainwater. These drains are not connected to the sanitary sewer system, but rather discharge to the ground and groundwater. Therefore, no discharges are to go to these storm drains, other than rainwater. Areas should be kept free of oil and grease and other contaminants into these drains.
8. For storing large amounts of chemicals and/or fuels:
 - a. All chemical and fuel storage areas must be contained within an impervious bermed or walled area capable of containing 110% of the volume of the largest single storage tank within the secondary containment area.
 - b. Chemical storage areas must be on an impervious surface with secondary containment or a bermed and covered area away from drainage structures (e.g. floor drains or storm drains).
9. Absorbent material shall be kept on site to cleanup any accidental spill. Used absorbent pads must not be disposed of in the trash/dumpster unless a hazardous waste profile indicates otherwise and approval is granted by this department.

10. In large storage areas, there must be aisle space between storage products. This will enable inspection of the container for leaks and/or corrosion. Incompatible chemicals or materials should be stored separately.
11. Spent spray booth filters may be disposed of with the regular trash, only if tests prove they are non-hazardous.
12. Excess solvents generated from gun cleaning should not be sprayed into the spray booth filters. This fluid must be collected and treated as waste solvent.
13. Car wash water from a hand washing process must be discharged to sanitary sewers, if available. If sewers are not available a separate recycle system must be installed for wash water. Wastewater must be sampled and approval is granted from this Department prior to disposal.
14. All painting and priming must be done inside a spray booth, which requires an air permit from DERM's Air Section (phone #372-6925). Absolutely no spray painting is allowed in the open.

Pollution Prevention Suggestions

The reduction or elimination, at the source, of discharges or emissions to the environment.

1. Waste fluids should be segregated and kept separately. This prevents mixing incompatible substances and prevents contamination of a non-hazardous waste by a hazardous waste. This also allows them each to be recycled or disposed of appropriately and reduce disposal costs.
2. Recycling of waste fluids is a preferred option. This can either be done on-site or shipped to an approved recycler off-site. Units for filtering, adding the necessary additives and restoring coolant are available. (Installation of such units must be approved by DERM and the Fire Dept.)
3. For small to medium facilities, it may be more economical to have a parts washer contractor replenish the parts cleaner and remove the spent solution, than to install a solvent recycling still.
4. Large facilities, on-site solvent recycling stills are usually very economical with payback periods of only 2-3 years.

5. Stop leaks quickly. Drip pans can be placed to catch leaks. Spot mopping with a bucket (and proper disposal of the water) can be performed. Floor cleaning machines are available that will spray a cleaning solution, scrub with brushed, and vacuum up the solution (to be disposed of properly). Absorbent pads are available that allow the oil to be "squeezed out" into a waste oil drum. The pads can be reused several times.
6. Scrap parts can be sold to metal recyclers.

Questions will be answered by the Industrial Facilities Section staff at (305)372-6600.

Any questions concerning pollution prevention please call the Pollution Prevention Program at (305)372-6784.

All paint and body shops are required to obtain an Annual Pollution Control Operating Permit.